

WHATCOM
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Unified Planning Work Program

UPWP

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2007

(July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007)

Adopted: May 10, 2006

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Table of edits

1. Page 3 Table of Contents has been revised to show correct pagination
2. Page 7 Deleted references to WCOG CTAG work on New Whatcom
3. Page 8 Add item to review/update WCOG Public Participation Plan
4. Page 8 Change Coast Millennium Trail completion to 2008
5. Page 18 Add Smart Trips project
6. Page 18 Add Bike Month project
7. Page 19 Reference to "Extreme Planning" deleted
8. Page 20 Amend Tables A and B to reflect WSDOT-provided updated numbers (-\$1,667)

The above corrections are noted in the main document with gray highlighting. This page and highlighting will be removed once the UPWP is approved

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This Unified Planning Work Program identifies the work to be completed by the Whatcom Council of Governments (WCOG) between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

Planning Emphasis Areas

WSDOT Planning Emphasis areas

For SFY 2007 the Washington State Department of Transportation emphasis areas are the same as for SFY 2006 and relate to completing the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) and ensuring consistency between the WTP and the Whatcom Regional Transportation Plan.

WSDOT emphasis areas include reviewing proposed Areas of Targeted Investment by Issue Area. Those Issue Areas include Preservation, Safety, Transportation Access, Economy/Jobs, Moving Freight, Health and Environment, System Efficiency, Bottlenecks and Chokepoints and Future Visions. WCOG will also participate in WTP-oriented WSDOT/Transportation Commission workshops focusing on programs and priorities and review draft and final 10-year investment plans. WCOG will complete other WTP update-related activities carrying over from SFY 2006. Work included in this category may consist of providing data and information, reviewing plan materials, participating in meetings, coordinating with cities, county, ports and other agencies on providing modal information and priorities, hosting public forums and developing performance measures.

The themes, schedules and programs identified in the Washington Transportation Plan will be reflected in the products of updating the Whatcom Transportation Plan. WCOG will continue to communicate with and educate legislators and other of the region's decision makers in regional planning processes as well as the importance of regional goals. Emphasis in these identified areas will be accomplished along with achievement of the goals shown below.

Additionally, WCOG will continue its efforts to assist local jurisdictions in implementing the requirements of the Washington State Growth Management Act, use the Whatcom regional travel demand model to identify forecast mobility deficiencies in the region and work with local jurisdictions in maintaining consistency among the Regional Plan and GMA Comprehensive Plan transportation chapters. A Whatcom ITS architecture has been completed and is being used as a guide in implementing ITS within the region.

Federal Planning Emphasis Areas

The Federal Highway Administration has not identified planning emphasis areas for this year. The Federal Transit Administration, however, has identified five national topics for consideration in this UPWP:

- Incorporate Safety and Security in Transportation Planning;
- Ensure Participation of Transit Operators in Metropolitan Planning;
- Coordinate Non-Emergency Human Service Transportation;
- Plan for Transit Systems Management/Operations to Increase Ridership; and
- Support Transit Capital Investment Decisions through Effective Systems Planning.

WCOG GOALS by category

Transportation Demand Modeling

- Continue improving and using the Whatcom Bi-national and Regional transportation demand models to forecast future transportation demand likely to result from anticipated regional population and economic growth. The WCOG model will undergo improvements throughout the year as traffic counts are added and the model is refined. A third model component, Border Operations Model, will be added this year to simulate border queuing and congestion related directly to how the border crossings are managed.
- Use the transportation demand model and related tools to assist Whatcom County, its cities, WSDOT and other interested parties including consultants, as part of a regional strategy, for developing Level of Service methodologies, and for complying with GMA requirements.
- Use the model to identify future demand for commercial operations and share this information with WSDOT as well as local jurisdictions and other interested parties.
- Continue enhancement of the technical capacity of MPO/RTPO staff through formal and informal training and education.

Freight Mobility

- Support WSDOT Freight Strategy and Policy office efforts to add better focus to freight issues in the region and statewide.
- Identify and support commercial transportation projects providing improved modal connections in the interest of efficiency and greater capacity for long-range, intra- and inter-regional freight delivery systems.
- Develop, in partnership with WSDOT and system users, a Freight Mobility section for the WCOG Whatcom Transportation Plan.
- Encourage multi-modal transportation planning.
- Monitor and report on U.S. – Canada commercial trip trends and assess future demand.
- Coordinate and facilitate local, State and Federal entities in placing emphasis on freight mobility-related system improvements.
- Complete the 2007-2012 Regional and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to accurately reflect the region's priorities and funding sources.
- Develop information and data, for use by MPO/RTPO members and other, to ensure regional freight mobility is considered in investment-based decision-making.
- Add a freight mobility section to the Whatcom Transportation Plan reflecting safe and secure movement of goods into and through the County.

Management and Operations

- Move beyond traditional transportation capital improvement programs by adding a focus on the way transportation systems are managed and operated. Review, discuss, and to the extent practical, implement emerging methods to improve management and operational efficiencies as has been discussed in FTA and FHWA papers available at <http://plan2op.fhwa.dot.gov> and various forums. This work will likely continue to be most effective relative to cross-border operations.
- Expand the concepts being used in the current Traveler Information Kiosk project to provide current information to the traveling public about transportation options and alternatives.
- Seek better border system operations by working with border stakeholders including security and enforcement agencies.
- Include ITS technology as part of an overall operations approach to more efficient systems.
- Encourage Whatcom Transportation Authority to enhance rider-ship through operational and system management improvements such a provision of cross-border transit services in cooperation with British Columbia, Canada operators.

Safety and Security, including Facility Safety, in Transportation Planning

- Consult with agencies responsible for physical security at ports of entry such as airports, seaports and border crossings to help identify ways and means to ensure safe and secure public travel.
- Help implement safety and security improvements in the region by seeking funding from federal, state and other programs intended to support transportation safety and security.
- Build safety and security into all MPO/RTPO transportation-planning activities by ensuring these considerations are reflected in regional project selection criteria.
- Plan for emergency vehicle access as an integral part of all, long range, MPO/RTPO plans.

Intelligent Transportation Systems

- The Whatcom region's ITS architecture adopted by the Whatcom RTPO Policy Board May 26, 2004, complies with National ITS Architecture standards and identifies and coordinates existing and planned ITS implementation. The architecture is comprehensive and will be used as a guide in implementing any ITS projects and programs in the region.
- Advocate use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and other technologies in conjunction with, and where practical, in lieu of new road construction through adherence to the principles identified in the ITS architecture. Incorporate ITS strategies in long and short range planning efforts.

- Continue working with officials of local jurisdictions to encourage ITS technologies in plans and projects by adding ITS policies to the transportation chapters of their GMA Comprehensive Plans.
- Encourage Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) to use ITS technologies to integrate safety and security into public transit operations.
- Cooperate and collaborate with partner agencies; including cities, County, and state; on projects relating to Interstate 5, by encouraging integration and implementation of ITS technologies in the interest of overall system efficiency, safety and security.

Transportation Project Funding

- Continue long-range financial planning, including assessment of existing conditions, identification of future needs, and assessment of fiscal ability to meet future needs. Search for and identify new and innovative resources, actively seek and react quickly to any new, diverted, or innovative funding sources for projects beneficial to the region.
- Increase project completion in Whatcom County by working with WSDOT staff and officials to cooperate on funding projects on both local and State facilities.
- Provide sustained leadership and administration of International Mobility and Trade Corridor (IMTC) project to identify and fund border-related projects that increase cross-border mobility, security and safety.
- Advise and assist MPO and RTPPO members in seeking non-traditional resources to complete needed transportation projects.
- Assist Whatcom County and its cities, as well as other entities, in seeking funding for projects that contribute to transportation safety, efficiency and modal choices for system users.

Public Participation in Transportation Planning

- Expand efforts to involve the public in meaningful and informed participation as part of the processes used to identify all transportation-related needs, issues, and solutions. Include consultation with elected officials of non-Metropolitan planning areas.
- Provide on-going leadership and administration for the Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG), a geographically representative group of citizens with widely varied interests, whose charter is to provide community perspectives for transportation planning and project implementation through advisory participation with the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board.
- Broaden CTAG involvement in community transportation work including continuation of WTA advisory work, and other projects with county-wide implications **Reference to New Whatcom deleted.**

- Review WCOG Participation Plan for currency and amend as needed.

Non-Motorized and Public Transportation

- Partner with local organizations to help provide safe routes to schools, and to provide bicycle safety education as part of Coast Millennium work.
- Complete current Coast Millennium Trail projects by 2008, and plan for next phase.
- Recommend and encourage transit-, pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly improvements both as stand alone projects and as components of road-related transportation improvements associated with regional development patterns.
- Continue work with the County and its cities in encouraging a regional system approach to transportation and recreational trails as a means to attract tourism and provide local transportation options.
- In working with Whatcom Transportation Authority, continue emphasis on connections with other modes and with other transit providers.
- Coordinate non-emergency human service transportation by working with existing human services organizations such as Northwest Regional Council and DSHS to identify gaps in the access to transit and identify means of closing those gaps.
- As described in the Management and operation category, encourage Whatcom Transportation Authority to scrutinize their system management and operations and review, discuss, and to the extent practical, implement emerging methods to improve management and operational efficiencies that increase public use of the mode. A project has been identified to work toward this goal through the International Mobility and Trade Corridor project. This bi-national group, led and administered by WCOG, will work with transit interests on both sides of the WA/BC border in improving access to cross-border public transportation.

Coordination With Others

- Participate whenever and wherever possible, and work with State DOT staff, to promote consistency between the Whatcom Transportation Plan and the Washington Transportation Plan., and to ensure a comprehensive approach to meeting Statewide transportation needs.
- Consult with local officials through the Whatcom MPO/RTPO Transportation Policy Board and Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, as well as through direct contact with elected and appointed officials such as city and County Council members, Planning Directors, Operations Managers, Public Works Directors and their staff of non-MPO cities, and other entities.
- Review County and city GMA Comprehensive Plan Transportation Elements for consistency with the Whatcom Transportation Plan (WTP), and biennially review the WTP for currency. If

updates are required for regional aspects of the plan, the revised WTP will be forwarded to WSDOT.

- Maintain and enhance communication, cooperation and coordination between WCOG and WSDOT, FTA, FHWA, WTA and other entities as directed by the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board.
- Continue leading the International Mobility and Trade Corridor project (IMTC). Plan and continuously develop a coordinated, all weather, multi-modal, transportation infrastructure with integrated Intelligent Transportation System technologies based on the Whatcom Regional Architecture. The system conjoins Washington State and British Columbia through the Cascade Gateway, and provides effective and multi-modal access and mobility for people and goods by reducing travel delay while maintaining safety and security.
- Track major transportation projects that are being implemented from the region's 2006 and 2007 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP).
- Provide timely assistance to MPO/RTPO members including WSDOT with any updates or revisions of functional or other classification of Whatcom County's road system.

WORK ELEMENTS

Work elements in this UPWP include:

- I. Administration**
- II. Planning Documentation**
- III. MPO and RTPO Program Management**
- IV. Transportation Modeling, Data Collection and Technical Support**
- V. Multi-Modal and Public Transportation Planning,**
- VI. Other**
- VII. Unfunded Work**

I. Administration

a. Purpose and function

Administration includes the record keeping, training, and business of the WCOG for activities relating to transportation planning.

b. Work tasks

- RTPO and MPO Administration.
- Perform office management.
- Provide program support for Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.
- Perform clerical support for other work elements.
- Prepare, reproduce, and disseminate administrative records and documents including the WCOG Indirect Cost Allocation, MPO Certification, Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and transportation plans prepared by WCOG in its role as MPO/RTPO.
- Prepare and maintain appropriate budget and other records of all financial transactions including allocations and grants (FTA, PL, RTPO, STP, other).
- Provide clerical and other staff support for MPO and RTPO Policy Boards.
- Provide advisory and technical information to inform, and educate Board members.
- MPO/RTPO Staff Development including technical training.
- Staff training and conferences.

c. Work products

- Annual budget and necessary amendments.
- Payroll and associated documentation.
- Appropriate files and records accurately portraying staff transportation activities for the current year.
- Communication with the public, elected officials, and staff of other organizations.
- Staff reports, agendas and summaries of regular and special meetings.
- Properly conducted staff, board, and technical meetings.
- Annual Indirect Cost Plan.
- Accurately maintained and organized financial records
- Staff trained in current technical and funding issues.
- Informed Whatcom Transportation Policy Board.
- Copies of MPO and RTPO documents as required and on request.

II. Planning Documentation

a. Purpose and function

Planning documentation provides appropriate records of processes and means used to meet state and federal requirements for regional and urban transportation planning activities related to the tasks identified in this UPWP.

b. Work tasks

The following tasks contribute to meeting the goals of this work program, the Whatcom Transportation Plan, and the requirements of TEA-21 and the GMA.

- Coordinate and work with State DOT staff to ensure consistency between the Whatcom Transportation Plan and the new Washington Transportation Plan currently under development.
- Complete annual report for SFY 2006 UPWP.
- Update and maintain records created as a result of developing and improving the Whatcom EMME 2-based transportation demand model.
- Update and improve the Whatcom Transportation Plan including completion of freight mobility, non-motorized sections along with an updated glossary.
- Conduct, and record the process of conducting, public hearings on plan updates and improvements.
- Develop, and adopt through public process, the 2007-2012 Regional and Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs and provide copies to appropriate federal and state offices.
- Produce and reproduce maps of the Region as needed.
- Review existing maps associated with the Whatcom Transportation Plan.
- Complete a UPWP for the following fiscal year.
- Continue improving and expanding access to MPO and RTPO activities and documents through the WCOG Internet web site.
- Generally assess local and state ability to pay for identified improvements as part of a fiscally constrained plan.
- Seek potential revenue sources for local improvements minimizing travel delay and increasing safety.
- Explore any emerging or innovative funding strategies.
- Record all efforts associated with Title VI and Environmental Justice compliance.
- Document proceedings of the International Mobility and Trade Corridor (IMTC) project coalition.

c. Work products

- A current and comprehensive Whatcom Transportation Plan consistent with the new 2007-2026 Washington Transportation Plan.
- Appropriate documentation of the process used to develop a valid, comprehensive, bi-national travel demand model.
- Transportation plans that are understandable and inclusive of perspectives of citizens of the planning area, those outside the Planning Area and those historically under-served or under-represented.
- Correctly prepared Regional and Metropolitan TIPs adopted by the Whatcom

- Transportation Policy Board in a public hearing environment.
- 2008 UPWP.
- 2006 UPWP Annual Report.
- Board-approved amendments to the UPWP and TIP.
- Properly conducted public meetings.
- Required environmental documentation.
- Recorded history of the IMTC process.

III. MPO and RTPO Program Management

a. Purpose and function

Meet state and federal requirements for maintenance and completion of regionally coordinated MPO and RTPO tasks and planning. Act as coordinating body linking the transportation interests and preferences of jurisdictions within the region with the requirements of the FTA, FHWA and WSDOT.

b. Work tasks

- Work with State DOT staff and leadership to ensure consistency between The Whatcom Transportation Plan and the new 2026 Washington Transportation Plan currently under development.
- Comply with the requirements of RCW 47.80 and 23 CFR Part 450.
- Complete a review and formal documentation of the process used to prioritize regional projects eligible for Surface Transportation Program funds including the Regional and Enhancement (STP R/E) programs by October 2006.
- Encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation and development of surface transportation systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight and foster economic growth and development within and through urbanized areas.
- Work to implement transportation improvements intended to reduce travel delay.
- Monitor and report on emerging national and regional transportation issues.
- Schedule and hold meetings and present issues for consideration of the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) and the MPO/RTPO Policy Board.
- Facilitate and lead work of the Community Transportation Advisory Group in providing Whatcom community perceptions and input to the Transportation Policy Board as well as the WSDOT Planning and Policy Office
- Assist Whatcom County and its cities in updating GMA Comprehensive Plans especially Transportation Chapters.
- Certify that transportation elements of the GMA Comprehensive Plans adopted by Whatcom County and its cities reflect the guidelines and principles developed pursuant to RCW 47.80.26 (Regional Transportation Plans, transportation guidelines, and principles) and are consistent with the Whatcom Transportation Plan (combined Regional and Metropolitan Plan).
- Attend, lead where appropriate, and participate in multi-jurisdictional coordination meetings including those related to Canadian border crossing issues, transportation systems management and operations, freight and goods mobility, transportation demand management, and land use.

- Complete, and approve, through the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board, the 2007 Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Improvement Programs.
 - Coordinate, and cooperate with WSDOT on traffic analyses, system planning, MPO/RTPO coordination, alternate transportation modes, comprehensive plan review, the Washington State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and other issues as requested.
 - Participate in activities associated with enhancement of mobility for people and freight within both the region and the state.
 - Employ the recently developed bi-national/regional transportation demand model to forecast travel demand associated with land use and population growth scenarios in cooperation with all affected and interested local, State and federal agencies.
 - Coordinate with WSDOT on transportation strategies identified in Washington and Whatcom 20-year transportation plans.
 - Participate in activities of the West Coast Corridor Coalition Chaired by Secretary MacDonald.
 - Coordinate WSDOT's participation and input concerning transportation issues in Whatcom County with the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board and Transportation Technical Advisory Committee.
 - Work with all transportation interests to determine the need, appropriate locations, and funding of transportation services and facilities supporting reduction of SOV use.
 - Work with WSDOT during review of local comprehensive plans for jurisdictions within Whatcom County.
 - Conduct and record public meetings as required and requested.
 - Continue leading the International Mobility and Trade Corridor Project (IMTC).
 - Assist member jurisdictions in seeking reclassification of local roads on request.
- c. Work products
- A current Whatcom Transportation Plan (a combined Metropolitan and Regional Plan) that reflects implementation of the requirements of 23 CFR Part 450 as amended by the Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty First Century, and pertinent RCWs, and that is consistent with the Washington Transportation Plan.
 - Appropriate public meetings and records of such proceedings.
 - Forums for reaching consensus on regional transportation issues.
 - A report, by October 2006, to WSDOT and the Washington State Legislature on the process used by WCOG to ensure STP R and E funds allocated to the RTPO are used for projects of regional nature and significance as agreed to by the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board.
 - Regional Transportation Strategies.
 - Local jurisdiction GMA Comprehensive Plan Transportation Chapters consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.
 - Completed data sets and research related to freight mobility.
 - Travel demand forecasts based on various land use and population scenarios as defined by the region's jurisdictions.
 - Locally identified and requested corridor studies.
 - Opportunities for public review and comment on all planning priorities.
 - An effective standing Community Transportation Advisory Group providing meaningful and timely community perspectives on transportation policy and spending decisions related to activities of the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board RTPO Policy Board
 - Continued (10th year) use of the IMTC forum for resolution of cross-border issues

- affecting travel efficiency, safety and security.
- ITS projects correlating with the new Whatcom ITS architecture.

IV. Transportation Modeling/ Data Collection/ Technical Assistance

a. Purpose and function

Employ the WCOG travel demand model to forecast transportation demand associated with impacts of future growth and land use scenarios. Continually improve the model as reliable data becomes available. Provide forecasts for member jurisdictions and outside agencies requiring that information as part of planning processes. Provide other data resources to jurisdictions on an as needed basis. Assist the region's jurisdictions in preparing their Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs). Display transportation-related information, data and studies on the WCOG web site.

b. Work tasks

- Coordinate and work with WSDOT staff to ensure consistency between The Whatcom Transportation Plan and the 2007-2026 Washington Transportation Plan.
- Work with Whatcom County and its cities in applying the Whatcom Regional EMME2 transportation demand model and analyzing future land use scenarios.
- Work directly with MPO/RTPO partners including Canadian entities through the International Mobility and Trade Corridor project (IMTC) to identify and meet regional transportation demand modeling needs.
- Obtain and evaluate a copy of "Border Wizard" for utility as a part of the Whatcom Cascade Gateway (cross-border) travel-demand model and for potential on-going MPO use.
- Using Border Wizard or some other analysis tool, examine cross-border travel behavior relative to forecast bi-national travel demand.
- Collect data; such as freight movements, border delay, and regional traffic counts; for use in developing and updating Whatcom Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPS), and for use in improving local and State project decision-making processes.
- Gather, organize, and keep current, databases related to transportation plans and geographic information systems (GIS), as well as border-related information and data.
- Update the WCOG web site to increase its use in providing and portraying transportation information to the public.
- Provide technical assistance to jurisdictions and the public in the form of traffic counts, census data, border crossing data and other archival information in usable formats.
- Provide transportation demand modeling services to regional partners.
- Organize local opportunities for technical training (e.g., TIP software, safety, MUTCD and etc.).
- Provide local agencies and the public with Census 2000 information and analyses.
- Seek training opportunities for WCOG to increase technical capacity.
- Update and improve the WCOG web site.

c. Work products

- Well-organized regional transportation system information.

- A robust basis for analyses of local transportation project alternatives and transportation impacts of proposed major economic development projects.
- A current and valid three-component Cascade Gateway/Whatcom Regional transportation demand model reflecting both cross-border and local systems.
- Transportation demand forecasts based on locally defined future land use and transportation system improvement scenarios.
- Technical assistance available to the region's jurisdictions and other interested parties.
- Published research results, including travel demand forecasts, freight movement, traffic counts, and an updated Whatcom Transportation Plan.
- Other data available to member jurisdictions and entities, including 2000 Census data.
- An improved web site capable of portraying meaningful data and custom query features enabling site visitors to select and display specific data cross-tabulations.
- A Whatcom Transportation Plan that is consistent with the new 2007-2026 Washington Transportation Plan and its associated Highway System Plan.

V. Multi-modal and Public Transportation Planning

a. Purpose and function

Integrate public transportation considerations into the Whatcom Transportation Plan and, to the extent possible, jurisdictions' GMA Comprehensive Plans. Cooperate with local public transportation providers in long and short range planning efforts. Encourage non-motorized facilities.

b. Work tasks

- Work with Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) in striving for the best possible transit services, programs and ridership.
- Work with private sector transportation providers in augmenting public transit services.
- Work with WTA staff in obtaining a high level of public involvement in WTA decision-making processes through [participation of the Whatcom Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG).
- Assist the WTA in acquiring data and information needed to best serve the regional community.
- Cooperate with WTA staff in identifying opportunities to increase transit ridership.
- Participate in implementing the WTA Strategic Plan to whatever extent possible.
- Encourage WSDOT and WTA management to include inter-city and inter-national transit links in operational planning, and develop solution strategies.
- Work with Northwest Regional Council to enhance access to human services transportation in accordance with the February 24, 2004 Executive Order on Human Service Transportation Coordination.

c. Work products

- Coordinated efforts toward achieving greater, high quality, public participation in public transportation discussions through the WCOG Community Transportation advisory Group (CTAG).
- Data and information required by WTA to best serve the region with public transportation to the maximum extent possible.
- Metropolitan/Regional TIPs reflecting a WTA six-year transit development plan.
- Enhanced access to human services transportation.
- Higher levels of access to public transportation.

VI. Other (new corridor studies, transit surveys and plans, etc.)

Transportation planning support may be needed or requested for site-specific studies, mode-specific studies, cross-border modeling, and other projects. Specific work products resulting from any efforts in this category will vary depending on specific requests for support. Findings resulting from any such activities will be incorporated in the Whatcom Transportation Plan, or IMTC planning products as appropriate.

No specific funding levels were budgeted for this category. Other funding sources such as grants and “earmarks”, however, may be available to provide funding for staff work in this category. One example of this type of work is the bi-national border stakeholder group: **IMTC (International Mobility and Trade Corridor) project**.

Specific tasks under this work element that are currently in progress include:

The IMTC Project, through the Whatcom MPO has obtained funds from TEA-21 programs and earmarks over the life of the Act and from ISTEA prior to that for multiple projects at and near the U.S. – Canada border area. Additional funds for those projects were assembled from other border stakeholders such as WSDOT, Transport Canada, BC Ministry of Transportation, and others. The following projects are currently in process: Blaine/I-5 Interchange Access study (APDR) (\$372,000), Commercial Cross-border Pre-Approved Travel Program (NEXUS) Marketing (\$125,425) and a Short Sea Shipping Study (\$100,000). Those projects will be completed by the end of the calendar year. The IMTC Forum and staff support (\$250,000) is on Going. A new project begun in CY 2006, Advance Traveler Information System/Data Management System (\$160,000) is in process and will be completed this FY.

Whatcom Smart Trips, a program for marketing sustainable transportation choices to the entire community, is supported by the City of Bellingham, Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA), Whatcom County, WCOG and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Whatcom Smart Trips is based on WCOG’s experience with the worksite-based Commute Trip Reduction program. The new program encourages a broader set of transportation users to consider alternatives to the single-occupant auto. The Smart Trips program focuses on four transportation user groups including large worksites willing to invest their own resources, employees of businesses in downtown Bellingham and Fairhaven, school children and Bellingham residents. Funds totaling \$1.38 million have been assembled from the Washington State multi-modal account and contributions by Whatcom County, City of Bellingham, WTA and WCOG. This is a three-year project. Multi-modal account funds for the first year are noted in Tables A and B.

WCOG, has also been successful in securing federal funding for other projects that will be active during FY 2007; the Traveler Information Kiosk project (\$70,000) is nearing completion, and the Passenger Ferry feasibility study (\$196,000) will both be completed by the end of the calendar year. A third project, “Bike Month,” (\$77,000) will begin this year and continue for three years. a series of annual educational events in May promoting safety while encouraging active transportation (bicycling, walking, and taking the bus). The events culminate in Bike to Work and School Day and the Bike Weeks Challenge.

WCOG has also been a founding partner in a five-county cooperative planning effort to identify and examine opportunities for regional transportation connections and alternatives.

The cooperative is known as the North Sound Connecting Communities project, and is also known as the "Farmhouse Gang." WCOG will continue an advisory role in this coalition.

WCOG is a Census affiliate, a designation enabling early access to Census based information and participation in process definition and methodology.

VII. Priority Unfunded Projects

a. Purpose and function

Accomplish additional work identified as significant and appropriate for the Whatcom MPO/RTPO by local, state or federal agencies. Seek funding for completion of these tasks from appropriate sources.

b. Work tasks

- Offer WCOG facilities and capacities as a clearinghouse for collecting and disseminating information concerning impacts and opportunities presented by the award of the 2010 Winter Olympics to Vancouver British Columbia.
- Respond to requests for additional roles in planning and preparing for system demands potentially created by 2010 activities.
- Develop an econometric model for the Whatcom Region with possible partnerships with other counties, private sector interests such as Chambers of Commerce and Canadian partners through the IMTC forum. The model will be used to assist regional public and private interests.
- Reference to Extreme Planning deleted.

c. Work products

- A forum for exchange of 2010 Olympics-related information.
- Additional products resulting from requests for WCOG/MPO/RTPO 2010 Winter Games involvement.
- An economic model of the region, operated and maintained by WCOG staff, enabling economic forecasts and analyses of operational, policy and infrastructure alternatives in the interest of improving decision-making processes to conserve limited resources.

Billing Process

All work detailed in this UPWP will be completed and recorded in time sheets and other records of work completed. Billings for each month will be based on total work completed by program. The Whatcom MPO/RTPO work program will be completed as detailed in this UPWP.

Budget Summary

Tables A, and B categorically summarize funding associated with the WCOG MPO and RTPO work program outlined above.

TABLE A State Fiscal Year 2007 Program Revenue Summary

PROGRAM	BUDGETED	CARRYOVER	MATCH	TOTAL
FHWA PL	\$166,325	\$ -0-	\$25,958	\$192,283
FTA SEC 5303	36,449	-0-	9,112	\$45,561
WSDOT RTPO	40,736	-0-	-	\$40,736
Smart Trips	150,000			\$150,000
Additional RTPO	47,108	-0-	-	\$47,108
FHWA STP(U)	85,000	-0-	13,266	\$98,266
Totals	\$375,618	\$0	\$48,336	\$573,954

TABLE B State Fiscal Year 2007 Anticipated Expenditures by Program (including match)

Program	Element I Administration	Element II Planning Document	Element III MPO/RTPO Program Management	Element IV Transportation Modeling Data	Element V Multimodal & Public Transportation	Element VI Other	Total Program Budget
FHWA PL and FTA Sec. 5303	\$23,784	\$52,326	\$35,677	\$83,245	\$42,812	\$0	\$237,844
WSDOT RTPO	\$4,075	\$8,962	\$6,110	\$14,258	\$7,331	\$0	\$40,736
Smart Trips						\$150,000	\$150,000
Additional RTPO	\$4,712	\$10,364	\$7,066	\$16,488	\$8,478	\$0	\$47,108
FHWA STP(U)	\$0	\$24,020	\$16,378	\$38,215	\$19,653	\$0	\$98,266
Total	\$32,571	\$95,672	\$65,231	\$152,206	\$78,274	\$150,000	\$573,954
Percent of Total	10%	22%	15%	35%	18%	0%	100%